

REMARKS

Applicant recognizes with appreciation that the Examiner indicated that Claims 12, 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In this Amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 1 – 17 and added new Claim 18. Claims 1, 2, 16 and 17 have been amended to overcome the rejections and further specify the embodiments of the present invention. Claims 3 – 15 have been amended to provide proper dependent form and rephrase certain expressions. Claim 18 specify additional embodiment of the present invention. The support for the amendments to the claims can be found throughout the specification. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the amended and added claims. All claims are now present for examination and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following comments.

OBJECTION TO SPECIFICATION:

The specification has been objected as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter.

It is respectfully submitted that the paragraph starting on page 8, line 34 of the specification has been amended to provide antecedent basis for various terms used in the Claims 12, 14 and 15. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the amendments. Therefore, the objection to the specification has been overcome and withdrawal of objection is respectfully requested.

OBJECTION TO DRAWINGS:

The drawing have been objected as failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

It is respectfully submitted that new Figs. 3A and 3B have been added to indicate the feature of keyboard overlay in both top plan view and section view. It is respectfully submitted that there is sufficient support for the added Figs. 3A and 3B in the specification, especially the descriptions at page 8, lines 36 of the specification and Claim 12. Therefore, the objection to the drawing has been overcome and withdrawal of objection is respectfully requested.

PRIORITY:

The Examiner indicates that Applicant has not complied with one or more conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 119 (e) or 120.

It is respectfully submitted that because no prior application was filed, it is not necessary for Applicant to claim priority date of an earlier filed application. The previous Disclosure Document was filed on December 27, 2000 as the evidence for the conception of an invention under MPEP Chap. 1706. This document was properly requested to be put into the file of this application on October 24, 2001 according to the requirement of MPEP Chap. 1706. The copies of the request letter, the Disclosure Documents and the postcard with date stamp are enclosed herewith for Examiner's reference. Because Applicant properly complied with all the requirements for Disclosure Document program according to MPEP Chap. 1706, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to improper claiming priority is improper and withdrawal of objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112 SECOND PARAGRAPH:

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejections have been overcome by this amendment. Claim 1 has been amended to rephrase the expression “whereby the input capability of the keyboard is considerably enhanced.” It is respectfully submitted that the input capability is enhanced due to the use of two simultaneously pressed keys in close relationship, horizontally or vertically, or single key activation. By providing more combination than the entire alphabet, and by use of two adjacent keys in diagonal relationship, the claimed method facilitates input of more characters. In addition, by use of two keys with one unused key therebetween, the claimed method increases the number of inputs even further.

Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1 – 7, 11, 13, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as allegedly being anticipated by Burrell, IV (US 6,232,892), hereinafter Burrell.

Applicant traverses the rejection and respectfully submits that the present-claimed invention is not anticipated by the cited reference. More specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to “[A] programmatic organization method for chordic input by using a standard keyboard with an enhanced input capability ... wherein simultaneous depression/touching of two adjacently located keys of said keyboard is decoded as a predetermined input in a chosen input mode.” In addition, Claim 2 has been amended to define that “the chosen mode is obtained by simultaneously depressing/touching predetermined combinations of keys that are separated by one key.” Claims 3 – 7, 11 and 13 also include these features by their dependence on Claim 1. In addition, Claim 16 and 17 have also been amended to include the relevant features similar to those indicated above.

It is respectfully submitted that Burrell does not disclose the embodiments of the present invention as defined in the amended claims. The method disclosed in Burrell is based on the use of three control keys, namely the lowermost keys “* 0 #” in combination with the keys 1 – 9. Furthermore, the coding sequences shown and claimed with regards to Figs. 5A and 5B include sequence such as ##, ###, **, ***, 00, 000, etc. These sequences obviously cannot be input simultaneously. This is more evident from the embodiment shown in Figs. 6A through 6D, which includes combinations such as 2**, 200, 2## and many other similar combinations, which prevent simultaneous operation due to the inclusion of two same keys, such as **, 00 and ##. Accordingly, Burrell has chosen the lower most keys of a standard twelve key push button telephone keypad as control keys. These control keys are used excessively in combination with the keys 1 – 9 to form capital characters in 2-key mode and also small characters and other symbols in 3-key mode.

As indicated above, the method of Burrell is not a method for single chordic entries, for example use of alternative 2-key combinations such as those disclosed in the present application. It is respectfully submitted that, unlike Burrell, the 2-key combinations are maintained in all modes available to the present invention, whereas Burrell requires 3-key combinations, always including at least one of the control keys to enhance the input capability by the claimed 3-key mode.

In addition, when considering the 2-key combinations shown by Burrell in Figs 1, 2A and 2B, which also require 3-key combinations for “punctuation mode”, its input capability is extremely restricted when compared with the input capability disclosed in the present invention. For example, the first embodiment disclosed in Burrell only produces capital letters. Furthermore, the use of the bottom line keys *0# as control keys results in combination such as 3*, 2*, etc. combination, which are unsuitable for chordic input due to the distance between the keys. This problem is even worse in the 3-key punctuation mode. When considering the Burrell disclosure in Figs 4, 5A and 5B, the above problems remain. Regarding the combinations shown in Figs 6A through 6D,

Burrell has introduced 3-key input in order to accomplish an input capability which is less than what is possible by 2-key input according to the present invention. Burrell uses combinations such as 2**, 200, 2##, etc. which are useless for chordic input according to the present invention, since the same key is operated more than once and no simultaneous depression is achieved.

In summary, the newly presented claims are not anticipated by Burrell and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) has been overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 8 – 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Burrell in view of Waldman (US 5,311,175), hereinafter Waldman.

Applicant traverses the rejection and respectfully submits that the embodiments of present-claimed invention are not obvious over Burrell in view of Waldman. As stated above, the embodiment of the present invention as presently defined in Claim 1 is different from the disclosure in Burrell. Burrell fails to teach or disclose “[A] programmatic organization method for chordic input by using a standard keyboard with an enhanced input capability ... wherein simultaneous depression/touching of two adjacently located keys of said keyboard is decoded as a predetermined input in a chosen input mode.” It is respectfully submitted that there is no motivation to combine Burrell with Waldman. Even if they are combined, Burrell and Waldman will not render the present claimed invention obvious. One of ordinary skill in the art would not discern the present invention as claimed at the time of its invention.

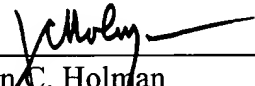
Therefore, the newly presented claims are not obvious over Burrell in view of Waldman and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is respectfully requested.

Having overcome all outstanding grounds of rejection, the application is now in condition for allowance, and prompt action toward that end is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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